

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Ted Stewart Executive Director James W. Carter Division Director

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January 10, 1997

Neil Simmons BLM Price River/San Rafael Resource Area 125 South 600 West P.O. Box 7004 Price; UT 84501

Re: Request for Release of Reclaimed Areas, Georgia-Pacific Corporation (GP), Eagle

Canyon Mine, M/015/050 (UTU-69850), Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Simmons:

The Division is in agreement with releasing the 1.15 acres located in the western portion of GP's Eagle Canyon gypsum operation. Granting release of this area will allow GP to expand their mining operation by 1.15 acres or reduce the amount of reclamation surety posted. From our telephone discussions it seemed GP wishes to expand their operations rather than adjust the surety. GP had requested release of approximately four acres which were reclaimed. Release of the 1.15 acres means the remaining 2.85 acres may be released in the near future.

The current total permit disturbance for GP's operation is approximately 26 acres. The BLM's November 13, 1995 decision, accepted GP's amendment increasing the disturbed area from 25 to 26 acres without increasing the \$50,000 bond.

Thank you for keeping us appraised of the status of mining and reclamation at this site. If you require any additional information in this regard please contact me.

Sincerely.

Anthony A. Gallegos

Senior Reclamation Specialist

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cc: M.L. Dunnermann, GP, Sigurd UT

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